

MS. ADELZADEH: Good morning. I'm Mary Adelzadeh. I'm the environmental director for the North Fork Mono Rancheria in Central California. And as everybody is aware, every tribe is unique with unique situations. Our situation is that we are a landless tribe. As a result, we've been excluded from many USDA programs due to the narrow criteria and standards. We desperately need these resources. One remedy to that would be to expand the definition of agricultural products to include plants that are used for subsistence for medicinal purposes and also for crafts.

One of our examples that the Mono culture really relies on are acorns, and we'd like to see that being more and more emphasized or being able to incorporate that especially since a lot of the traditional diets have been replaced by commodity foods. I think in the past when our tribal leaders negotiated for these rights to have food, which is now known as commodity food, they didn't realize that it would replace a lot of the traditional diets. I think the people -- most Indian people would like to see that their ability to harvest traditional food sources so that they can make sure that they continue these diets to help prevent diabetes and other health problems. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

MR. RACINE: Go ahead, Tony. I know you want to come back.